

City of McAllen
Office of the Mayor

JAMES E. DARLING
MAYOR

July 10, 2014

Henry Cuellar
Representative, District 28
U.S. House of Representatives
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cuellar:

The City of McAllen joins other local governments, law enforcement agencies, and community partners in providing support for the humanitarian relief effort as recent, unprecedented numbers of immigrants continue to stream into South Texas. Our region finds itself at the center of this epic humanitarian situation, Ground Zero as up to 1,700 immigrants arrive each day, some after traveling up to 25 days. I am proud of our ongoing efforts, as well as the contributions of our partners and citizens in offering food, shelter, medical, and transportation assistance.

As the City and our regional partners did not cause, anticipate or set aside funds for this ongoing operation, we respectfully request immediate financial assistance to reimburse local taxpayers for the cost and sustainability of this urgent and growing immigration situation. To date, the Cities of McAllen, Mission and Westlaco; the Counties of Hidalgo and Willacy; and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council have expended \$142,423 in the dedication of resources and deployment of equipment, as evidenced in the attached Cost Summary Analysis as well as the City and Region expense breakdown. Sustaining this effort through December 31, 2014 is projected to cost South Texas approximately \$1,577,564, an investment our region cannot address without federal aid. Acting as the region's fiscal agent, the City of McAllen is respectfully requesting reimbursement for the provisions we have provided toward this humanitarian crisis.

The City of McAllen seeks your support in securing federal aid with the hope of reimbursement for these unplanned expenses. In the meantime, we will continue to treat these guests with dignity and humanity. Should you need additional information regarding our expenditures, please contact City Manager Roy Rodriguez at (956) 681-1006.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Darling

Region's Ongoing Support for Humanitarian Situation Cost Summary Analysis

- The City of McAllen joins other local governments, law enforcement agencies and community partners in providing support for the humanitarian relief effort as recent, unprecedented numbers of immigrants continue to stream into South Texas.

Partners include:

- City of Mission
- City of Weslaco
- Hidalgo County
- Willacy County
- Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

- We are facilitating financial assistance and reimbursement through the following channels:

- FEMA
- Gov. Rick Perry
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Rep. Ruben Hinojosa, Texas, District 15
- U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar, Texas, District 28
- U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

- City of McAllen expenditures to date total \$71,012:

- Personnel
 - Emergency Management, Public Works Department, Code Enforcement Department, Fire Department, Police Department, etc...
 - Equipment
 - Generators, tents, portable bathrooms, portable showers, etc...
 - Services
 - Relocating equipment throughout site, maintenance of heavily-used equipment and of infrastructure capabilities, etc...
 - Security
 - Daily overnight security for location's visitors and equipment including within and around the site's perimeter
 - Supplies
 - Fuel, partitions, etc...
 - Transportation
 - Shuttling services to and from the Bus Terminal from the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Downtown McAllen, etc...
- Sustaining these operations until Dec. 31, 2014 are projected to cost the City of McAllen \$605,564 and the region approximately \$1,577,564.

City of McAllen and Region Humanitarian Relief Efforts

Expense Breakdown To Date and Projected Amounts

CITY OF McALLEN	ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
Public Works	\$ 6,000	\$ 18,000
Traffic Operations	\$ 3,000	\$ 31,925
Fire Department	\$ 1,826	\$ 43,030
Code Enforcement	\$ 14,000	\$ 84,000
Emergency Management Staff	\$ 10,000	\$ 2,250
Parks & Recreation	\$ 22,000	\$ 180,000
Private Security Service	\$ 2,507	\$ 50,758
Police Department	\$ 1,800	\$ 60,000
Transit Department (as of June 4, 2014)	\$ 9,626	\$ 134,908
IT Department	\$ 253	\$ 693
Subtotal	\$ 71,012	\$ 605,564

HIDALGO COUNTY	ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
Sheriff's Office	\$ 935	\$ 5,000
Emergency Management Staff	\$ 4,411	\$ 60,000
Health Department	\$ 21,830	\$ 216,000
Fire Marshall	\$ 3,500	\$ 15,000
Subtotal	\$ 30,676	\$ 296,000

CITY OF WESLACO	ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
Tent Usage (Cost to purchase is \$64,200)	\$ 14,440	\$ 259,200
Subtotal	\$ 14,440	\$ 259,200

*Calculations are based on daily cost to rent tent: \$1,440/day if we would keep it for 6 months = \$259,200 per tent
The tents are being provided via mutual aid, keep in mind the Master Mutual Aid Agreement states the
jurisdiction that owns the equipment has the right to charge us.*

WILLACY COUNTY		ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
Tent Usage (Cost to purchase is \$64,200)		\$ 11,520	\$ 259,200
Repairs		\$ 300	\$ -
Subtotal		\$ 11,820	\$ 259,200

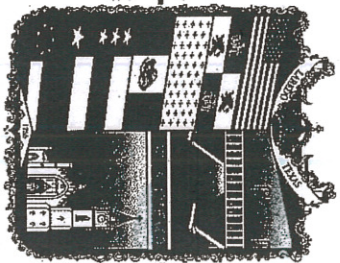
LRGVDC		ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
COG Staff		\$ 1,275	\$ 1,000
Subtotal		\$ 1,275	\$ 1,000

CITY OF MISSION		ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
Cots		\$ 300	\$ 1,800
Subtotal		\$ 300	\$ 1,800

MEDICAL UNIT EXPENSES		ACTUAL COST June 6, 2014 through June 27, 2014	PROJECTED June 28, 2014 through December 31, 2014
Prescriptions		\$ 500	\$ 6,000
Physicians/mobile unit		\$ 12,400	\$ 148,800
Subtotal		\$ 12,900	\$ 154,800

(A private donor has been paying for prescriptions at Lee's Pharmacy)

GRAND TOTAL	\$	142,423	\$	1,577,564
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CITY OF LAREDO

Office of the City Manager

July 23, 2014

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
Representative, District 28
U.S. House of Representatives
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

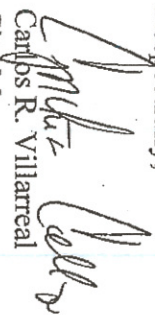
Dear Congressman Cuellar:

The City of Laredo together with other Texas Border Cities has felt the impact of mass immigration from Central America and applauds your efforts in introducing the Helping Unaccompanied Minors and Alleviating National Emergency Act, the HUMANE ACT, that will not only assist in expediting the due process and screening of unaccompanied alien children, but will help strengthen our borders and provide funding to assist border cities.

The City of Laredo has been cautious in expending funds to address local humanitarian efforts. To date, the City has expended only \$4,298. Reflective of the good and kind hearts of Laredoans, local non-profits and churches have taken the charge to provide food, clothing, travel assistance, and health care to immigrants as they are released in Laredo. There is a concern that once these resources are exhausted, that this burden may fall on the local government and taxpayers. It is anticipated that direct public health engagement or outbreak costs will equal \$50,000-75,000 through December 2014.

The City of Laredo seeks your support in securing federal aid to address these concerns. Please let us know if you need additional information. Thank you for all you do for Laredo and South Texas.

Respectfully,


Carlos R. Villarreal
City Manager

City of Laredo

Direct Costs - Immigration Influx

Transit Center – Greyhound Terminal

- Security Services – Eye View Security \$1,543 per month.
- Trash Collection Services – Southern Sanitation \$1,000 per month.

Health Services Department

- Training to Customs and Border Protection Agents - \$575
To Reduce Potential Communicable Disease Exposure and Respond to Potential Cases
- Training to Volunteers from the Humanitarian Relief Team - \$340
To Reduce Risk of Potential Communicable Disease Exposure and Food Safety Management
- Surveillance, Reporting, Communication and Coordination with Centers - \$700
For Disease Control and Prevention Quarantine Station
- Volunteer Supplies \$140



Sheriff Martin Cuellar
Webb County Sheriff's Office

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Laredo, Texas 78040

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E-mail: martincuellar@webbcountytx.gov

July 23, 2014

Hon. Congressman Henry Cuellar
Representative, District 28
U.S. House of Representatives
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Request for Federal Funding for On-Going Webb County Sheriff's Office Humanitarian Relief Efforts

Dear Hon. Congressman Cuellar:

The Webb County Sheriff's Office is deeply appreciative of your efforts to provide the necessary resources to effectively manage the on-going humanitarian efforts in the South Texas area. As a proactive measure, the Webb County Sheriff's Office has been providing extra police presence to the local transport area (main bus station in the Laredo downtown area) to assist the local community as it struggles to deal with the on-going humanitarian relief efforts in Laredo/Webb County. As the local community of Laredo/Webb County did not cause, anticipate, or forecast the need for funding for this ongoing operation, we respectfully request immediate financial assistance to reimburse local cost for the law enforcement response to this urgent and continuing situation. In particular, citizens working with the humanitarian relief efforts had advised representatives from the Webb County Sheriff's Office that they required the assistance of our agency due to several instances of attempted exploitation of these immigrants, such as theft, deceptive practices, and extortion. Due to these requests by local community members from the Laredo downtown area to the Webb County Sheriff's Office to assist with securing enhanced law enforcement presence, this agency has deployed law enforcement personnel and assets to that particular area on an on-going basis.

Also, it is important to note that this on-going international humanitarian crisis has severely impacted the operations and budgets of the other Webb County departments/offices, such as the Office of the Medical Examiner, with unanticipated and heavy expenses related to the on-going influx of illegal immigrants. As the *Laredo Morning Times* noted in late June 2014, the Office of the Medical Examiner held over 69 bodies of people who had died trying to cross the border ("Immigrant Health" June 30, 2014).

The Webb County Sheriff's Office seeks your support in securing federal aid for the reimbursement and continuing costs of the unplanned expenses related to its continuing efforts to keep the border secure and to provide assistance to this humanitarian crisis. Your favorable review of this request will be greatly appreciated. Should you require additional information, please feel free to contact Chief Federico Garza and/or Mr. Joe Lopez at (956) 523-4500.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Martin Cuellar".

Sheriff Martin Cuellar
Webb County